

**Illinois Early Learning Council
Family and Community Engagement Meeting
Illinois Action for Children – Damen Location
1340 S. Damen Avenue
Chicago, IL 60608**

Notes

January 24, 2013

Participants: Chris Tokarski, Tracy Occomy Crowder, Joan Vitale, Granada Williams, Sam Aigner-Treworgy, Martin Torres, TeeNeka Jones, Bernard Cesarone, Melanie Garrett, Natalie Danner, Dawn Thomas, Bob Camarata, Tom Layman, Cerathel Burnett, Rhonda Anderson, Adrienne Stewart, Angela Farwig, Kathy Vilano, Choua Vue, Mario Garcia, Mark McHugh, Kim Collins, Gloria Harris, Natalie Tucker, Daniel Fitzgerald, Jessica LeBeau-Richman, Carie Bires, Patricia Islas, Theresa Hawley, George Davis, Maria Whelan

Phone: Janice Moenster, Lori Longueville, Cindy Wall, Donna Emmons, Kate Maher, Michelle Carmichael

Approve minutes from September 27, 2012

Minutes approved

Updates

Race to the Top. Illinois has won a RTT Early Learning Challenge award and the Office of Early Childhood Development (OECD) is working on the scope of work. OECD has received 10% of the funds to get started and is beginning to hire staff. Currently, they are posting for a QRIS Policy Director and there will be other postings soon (through ISBE).

Early Learning Council. OECD is meeting with the committee co-chairs over the next month to refine the work plans and work on the “bigger” picture of the council.

Early Childhood Construction Grants (ECCG). 14 sites across the state received an ECCG grant (in addition to an award for CPS). These grants are funding a variety of projects and a variety of high need settings across the state.

Subcommittee Updates

Capital/Infrastructure

The subcommittee is developing a recommendation to be presented at the next Council meeting. The recommendation will recognize the need for capital funds and recommend that the Governor/General Assembly issue a second round of capital investment grants for programs in high need communities with at least the same level of funding. Martin will work on finalizing this language.

For capital work, the subcommittee will also do an analysis of the ECCG applications and offer assistance to CPS with their capital grants.

The subcommittee also discussed transportation and the components they need to complete a needs assessment. The subcommittee is in need of additional people with a background in transportation.

Next meeting: February 20th from 11-12 via teleconference (call in: 800-503-2899; passcode:288 7643). This meeting will focus on transportation and the needs assessment.

Hard to Reach

The subcommittee is continuing to work on the hard to reach categories table. It is moving on to discussing successful approaches.

Next meeting: February 19th 10-12 at Illinois Action for Children—Damen

Principles and Practices (formerly Parent Engagement)

The subcommittee first decided to change their name because the work is broader than parents—extends to families and communities. Granada Williams and Choua Vue will be co-chairing this new subcommittee. The first task for the group is developing and defining a level 5 rating description for family and community engagement for the QRIS system and how to measure it.

Next meeting: February 15

Tentative Family and Community Committee Meetings

- March 28, 2013; 10:00-12:00
- May 23, 2013; 10:00-12:00
- August 22, 2013